Amendments to the Specification

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning on page 4, lines 1-9 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- The computer-controlled device 104 comprises a computer-controlled system 106, a microcontroller 112, a memory 114 and a card reader 116. The microcontroller ~~110~~ 112 is a processor that retrieves and executes a card reading software or routine 300 from the memory 114, instructs the card reader 116 to detect the IC card 102 received therein, and activates the computer controlled system 106 upon an acknowledgement from the card reader 116. The computer-controlled system 106 is a system or module that operates the IC card system 100 in response to a signal from the microcontroller 112. The memory 114 stores the card reading routine 300 or method, as well as other applications for implementing the IC card system 100.--